

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A plank, comprising:

a perimeter;

a first upper surface defining a first portion of the perimeter;

5 a second upper surface adjacent the first upper surface and defining a second portion of the perimeter, wherein the second upper surface is substantially non-coplanar with the first upper surface; and

a first groove dividing the second upper surface into at least two sub-surfaces, wherein the width of the first groove is less than about 1 mm.

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2. The plank according to claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the first portion of the perimeter is elevationally below at least a portion of the second portion of the perimeter.

3. The plank according to claim 1, wherein the first upper surface is substantially

15 parallel to the second upper surface.

4. The plank according to claim 1, wherein the first upper surface is oblique to the second upper surface.

20 5. The plank according to claim 1, wherein the at least two sub-surfaces visually depict separate motifs.

6. The plank according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the at least two sub-surfaces is adjacent only the first upper surface and the first groove.

7. The plank according to claim 1, wherein the first groove is substantially V-shaped.

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8. The plank according to claim 1, wherein the first groove comprises sidewalls substantially perpendicular to the second major surface.

9. The plank according to claim 1, wherein a lowermost surface portion of the first surface is substantially coplanar with a lowermost surface portion of the first groove.

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10. The plank according to claim 1, wherein the first upper surface and the first groove visually depict substantially the same motif.

11. The plank according to claim 1, further comprising at least one locking mechanism arranged elevationally below the first upper surface.

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12. The plank according to claim 11, wherein a portion of the at least one locking mechanism is hidden by the first upper surface.

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13. The plank according to claim 11, wherein a portion of the at least one locking mechanism is hidden by the second upper surface.

14. The plank according to claim 1, wherein the second upper surface comprises a surface texture.

15. The plank according to claim 14, wherein the surface texture comprises at least one
5 embossed depression having a depth less than about 0.2 mm.

16. The flooring system according to claim 14, wherein the surface texture is an embossed surface texture.

10 17. The flooring system according to claim 14, wherein the surface texture is aligned with a decorative motif.

18. The flooring system according to claim 14, wherein the surface texture is unaligned with a decorative motif.

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19. The plank according to claim 1, wherein the first upper surface is about 0.794 mm below the second upper surface.

20. The plank according to claim 1, wherein the first upper surface has a width about half
20 the width of the first groove.

21. The plank according to claim 1, wherein the width of the first groove is between about 0.3 about and 0.9 mm (support in spec?).

22. A flooring system, comprising:

at least two planks, wherein each plank comprises

a perimeter;

5 a first upper surface defining a first portion of the perimeter;

a second upper surface adjacent the first upper surface and defining a second portion of the perimeter, wherein the second upper surface is substantially non-coplanar with the first upper surface; and

a first groove dividing the second upper surface into at least two sub-surfaces,

10 wherein first upper surfaces of adjacent ones of the at least two planks form a second groove having a topography substantially identical to a topography of the first groove, and wherein said first groove has a width less than about 1 mm.

23. The flooring system according to claim 23, wherein the first upper surface is

15 substantially parallel to the second upper surface.

24. The flooring system according to claim 23, wherein the first upper surface is oblique to the second upper surface.

20 25. The flooring system according to claim 23, wherein the at least two sub-surfaces visually depict separate motifs.

26. The flooring system according to claim 23, wherein at least one of the at least two sub-surfaces is adjacent only the first upper surface and the first groove.

27. The flooring system according to claim 23, wherein the first groove is substantially V-
5 shaped.

28. The flooring system according to claim 23, wherein the first groove comprises sidewalls substantially perpendicular to the second major surface.

10 29. The flooring system according to claim 23, wherein second portions of perimeters of adjacent ones of the at least two planks are substantially aligned with each other.

30. The flooring system according to claim 23, wherein a substantially continuous motif is visually depicted across sub-surfaces of adjacent ones of the at least two planks, wherein
15 the sub-surfaces comprise at least a portion of the second portion of the perimeter.

31. The flooring system according to claim 23, wherein a substantially continuous surface texture is provided across sub-surfaces of adjacent ones of the at least two planks, wherein the sub-surfaces comprise at least a portion of the second portion of the perimeter.

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32. The flooring system according to claim 32, wherein the surface texture is an embossed surface texture.

33. The flooring system according to claim 33, wherein the embossed surface texture comprises at least one depression having a depth less than about 0.2 mm.

34. The flooring system according to claim 32, wherein the surface texture is aligned with
5 a decorative motif.

35. The flooring system according to claim 32, wherein the surface texture is unaligned with a decorative motif.

10 36. The flooring system according to claim 23, wherein the first upper surface and the first groove visually depict substantially the same motif.

37. The flooring system according to claim 23, further comprising at least one locking mechanism arranged elevationally below the first upper surface.

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38. The flooring system according to claim 38, wherein a portion of the at least one locking mechanism is hidden by the second upper surface.

39. The flooring system according to claim 38, wherein a portion of the at least one
20 locking mechanism is hidden by the first upper surface.

40. The flooring system according to claim 23, wherein adjacent ones of the at least two planks are joined together with glue.

41. The flooring system according to claim 23, wherein adjacent ones of the at least two planks are joined together without glue.

5 42. The flooring system according to claim 23, wherein at least one side of each of at least one of the at least two planks contacts more than one adjacent plank.

43. The flooring system according to claim 23, wherein the first groove of each of the at least two planks is substantially identical.

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44. The flooring system according to claim 23, wherein the first surface is about 0.794 mm below the second upper surface.

45. The flooring system according to claim 23, wherein the second groove is substantially
15 the same width as the first groove.

46. The flooring system according to claim 23, wherein the width of the first groove is between about 0.3 and about 0.9 mm.

20 47. The flooring system according to claim 23, wherein at least one sub-surface visually depicts wood.